

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 FEA-02 AEC-11 AID-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FPC-01

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07

RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04

PRS-01 DRC-01 OIC-04 /228 W
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O 181122Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1109

INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BERN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY QUITO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE
USMISSION OECD PARIS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 4228

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: ENERGY COORDINATION GROUP MEETS IN BRUSSELS:

JUNE 17 SESSION

1. SUMMARY: FIRST DAY OF ECG WAS DEVOTED ALMOST ENTIRELY TO DISCUSSION OF U.S. PAPER ON THE IEP. INITIAL REACTIONS WERE MIXED, BUT BY END OF DAY CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS HAD BEEN ACHIEVED IN PERSUADING OTHERS THAT OUR PROPOSAL IS A SERIOUS AND MAJOR NEW INITIATIVE AIMED AT DEVELOPING AN ARTICULATE AND EFFECTIVE PROGRAM FOR DEALING WITH

EMERGENCY SITUATIONS AND THAT WE HAVE NO ULTERIOR MOTIVE IN PUTTING THIS PROPOSAL FORWARD AT THIS TIME. END SUMMARY.

2. FIRST DAY'S MEETING OF ECG IN BRUSSELS WAS DEVOTED ALMOST ENTIRELY TO DISCUSSION OF U.S. INTEGRATED EMERGENCY PROGRAM (IEP) PROPOSAL, WHICH HAD BEEN CIRCULATED TO ALL ECG CAPITALS ON AD REFERENDUM BASIS SEVERAL DAYS IN ADVANCE OF MEETING. BILATERAL PRE-BRIEFINGS OF MOST OF DELEGATIONS BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY (DESIGANTE) ENDERS AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY KATZ ON DAY BEFORE MEETING TURNED OUT TO BE VERY PROFITABLE IN SEVERAL INSTANCES, PARTICULARLY CONFIDENTIAL

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SESSION WITH CHARIMAN DAVIGNON WHO READILY GRASPED OVERALL CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF U.S. PAPER, SAW ITS MERITS IN RELATION TO APPROACH CURRENTLY BEING DISCUSSED IN OECD, AND STRUCTURED DAY'S AGENDA SUCH THAT U.S. PAPER WAS TAKEN UP BEFORE ANY OTHER ISSUES.

3. AT OUTSET OF MEETING ENDERS LED OFF DISCUSSION WITH GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED U.S. APPROACH (SEE

SEPTEL).

4. REACTIONS TO U.S. PROPOSAL WERE VARIED, BUT FOLLOWED GENERALLY ANTICIPATED LINES WITH DUTCH, JAPANESE, BRITISH AND IRISH RESPONDING RATHER COOLY. BELGIANS, DANES, AND NORWEGIANS REACTED POSITIVELY, AND CANADIANS, GERMANS, AND ITALIANS WERE NEUTRAL. MAJOR EFFORTS ON U.S. SIDE WERE DEVOTED TO: (A) CONVINCING OTHER DELEGATIONS, PARTICULARLY JAPANESE, DUTCH AND BRITISH THAT U.S. IS SERIOUS IN THIS NEW INITIATIVE; AND, (B) LEADING OTHER PARTICIPANTS THROUGH IEP CONCEPT.

5. ONE OF MAJOR DIFFICULTIES WAS THAT OTHERS SAW U.S. INITIATIVE AS CONFLICTING WITH WORK ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED IN OECD OIL SHARING COMMITTEE. THEY WISHED TO KNOW WHETHER U.S. IS PROPOSING OECD COMMITTEE WORK BE SHELVED AND ECG CONTINUE DISCUSSION OF OIL SHARING PROBLEM SOLELY ON BASIS OF U.S. PROPOSAL. DAVIGNON WAS HELPFUL THROUGHOUT DAY IN DEFLECTING THIS AND OTHER POTENTIALLY SENSITIVE POLITICAL ISSUES AND KEEPING DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON MAJOR ELEMENTS OF U.S. PAPER. SIDETRACKING WAS PARTICULAR PROBLEM WITH DUTCH REPRESENTATIVE WHO, AS CHAIRMAN OF OECD AD HOC GROUP, PRESSED FOR ECG TO TAKE FORMAL DECISION WHETHER GROUP IS GOING TO CONTINUE WORK ON BASIS OECD WORKING GROUP REPORT, OR ON U.S. PROPOSAL. UNDER PRESSURE, DUTCH REP EVENTUALLY BACKED OFF THIS DEMAND.

6. LUNCHTIME MEETING BETWEEN ENDERS AND FRG REP ROHWEDDER HELPED FURTHER TO RESOLVE THIS ISSUE. IN AFTERNOON SESSION, FRG HELPFULLY SUGGESTED THAT AN AD HOC GROUP BE IMMEDIATELY ESTABLISHED AT WORKING LEVEL TO REVIEW U.S. PAPER AND REPORT BACK TO PLENARY AT NEXT DAY'S MEETING
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CONCERNING HOW TO DEAL WITH U.S. PROPOSAL. AT DAVIGNON'S URGING, AND OVER SOME INITIAL DUTCH RESISTANCE, WORKING GROUP WAS IMMEDIATELY CONVENED.

7. U.S. REP RESPONDED TO ISSUE OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN U.S. PAPER AND OECD FORMULA BY SAYING U.S. PAPER IS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT APPROACH TO PROBLEM OF OIL ALLOCATION, BUT U.S. PROPOSAL ENCOMPASSES OECD APPROACH AND TAKES IT FURTHER IN DEVELOPING AN INTEGRATED STRUCTURE FOR DEALING WITH RELATED PROBLEMS OF OIL SUPPLY, DEMAND RESTRAINT, AND EMERGENCY ALLOCATION.

8. SECOND SENSITIVE POLITICAL ISSUE WHICH WAS REPEATEDLY RAISED BY OTHERS WAS WHETHER U.S. IS PROPOSING SOME NEW PERMANENT INSTITUTIONS TO HANDLE IMPLEMENTATION OF IEP

PROPOSAL, OR WHETHER IEP WORK COULD BE BROUGHT INTO OECD FRAMEWORK IN SOME WAY. CONSENSUS OF OPINION AMONG OTHERS IS THAT NEW INSTITUTION PROBABLY IS NOT DESIRABLE AND THAT ARRANGEMENT SHOULD BE MADE TO USE EXISTING INSTITUTIONS TO MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE. U.S. REP TOOK NO POSITION ON THIS ISSUE AND SAID HE FELT IT WAS PRE-MATURE TO ADDRESS PROBLEM BEFORE PARTICIPANTS HAD REACHED GREATER UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT ON ELEMENTS OF U.S. PROPOSAL. IT APPARENT, HOWEVER, THAT SOME PARTICIPANTS, KEEPING ANTICIPATED FRENCH REACTION IN MIND, SEE CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES IN ANY PROPOSAL WHICH MIGHT BE VEHICLE FOR CREATION OF ANY NEW INSTITUTIONS.

9. IN SUM, BY END OF DAY IT WAS CLEAR WE HAD MADE CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS TOWARD ASSURING OTHER PARTICIPANTS THAT U.S. PROPOSAL IS SERIOUS NEW INITIATIVE ON OUR PART, AND THAT NO ULTERIOR MOTIVE IS INVOLVED. JUNE 18 SESSION SHOULD PROVE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT IN DETERMINING WHETHER WE CAN CONVINCE OTHER PARTICIPANTS OF MERIT AND FEASIBILITY OF U.S. APPROACH, AND ADVISABILITY OF REACHING AGREEMENT ON IEP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. FIRESTONE

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